

HOUSE No. 2511

By Mr. Jones of North Reading, petition of Bradley H. Jones, Jr.
and others relative to tax relief for certain elderly persons. Revenue.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.	Robert S. Hargraves
Mary S. Rogeness	Lewis G. Evangelidis
George N. Peterson, Jr.	Karyn E. Polito
John A. Lepper	Paul K. Frost
Viriato Manuel deMacedo	Paul J.P. Loscocco
Elizabeth A. Poirier	Shirley Gomes
Jeffrey Davis Perry	Michael J. Coppola
Donald F. Humason, Jr.	Todd M. Smola
Susan W. Pope	Richard J. Ross
Susan Williams Gifford	Charles A. Murphy

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO SENIOR TAX RELIEF.

1 *Whereas*, the deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat
2 its purpose, which is forthwith to provide relief from the problem
3 facing many members of the senior population in the common-
4 wealth created by substantial increases in real estate taxes, there-
5 fore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for
6 the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Paragraph (1) of subsection (k) of section 6 of
2 chapter 62 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2002 Official
3 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, before the definition of
4 “cost-of-living-adjustment”, the following definition:—

5 “Cost-of-housing adjustment”, for any calendar year, the per-
6 centage, if any, by which the average assessed value for a single-
7 family home in Massachusetts for the preceding calendar year, as
8 calculated by the department of revenue, exceeds the average
9 assessed value for a single-family home in the commonwealth for
10 calendar year 2004, as reported by the department.

1 SECTION 2. Paragraph (3) of said subsection (k) of said
2 section 6 of said chapter 62 of the General Laws, as so appearing,
3 is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 437, the figures
4 “\$400,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figures:—
5 \$600,000.

1 SECTION 3. Paragraph (4) of said subsection (k) of said
2 section 6 of said chapter 62 of the General Laws, as so appearing,
3 is hereby further amended by striking out the first sentence and
4 inserting in place thereof the following 2 sentences:—
5 For a taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2001 and
6 before January 1, 2005, the income, valuation and credit limits in
7 this subsection shall be increased by amounts equal to such
8 income, valuation and credit limits multiplied by the cost-of-
9 living adjustment for the calendar year in which such taxable year
10 begins. For a taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2005,
11 the income and credit limits in this subsection shall be increased
12 by amounts equal to such income and credit limits multiplied by
13 the cost-of-living adjustment for the calendar year in which such
14 taxable year begins, and the valuation limit in this subsection shall
15 be increased by an amount equal to such valuation limit multiplied
16 by the cost-of-housing adjustment for the calendar year in which
17 such taxable year begins.

1 SECTION 4. The commissioner of revenue shall promulgate
2 guidelines or regulations to carry out the purposes of this act.